



# 2007 LABOUR STATISTICS IN BRIEF

CATALOGUE NO. 6104.0



## OVERVIEW

Labour statistics are of interest from both economic and social perspectives. This pamphlet provides a brief overview of data available from the ABS, relating to Australian labour statistics. Comparisons of data over a 20-year period are given for labour force participation, employment and unemployment, earnings, wages and prices, job vacancies and industrial relations. Also included are recent data on the labour force, and people not in the labour force.

The quarterly publication *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0) provides regular updates on a range of labour statistics to provide an overall picture of the labour market. The publication is available free from the ABS website and is accessible through the Labour Theme Page. To find the Theme Page go to <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (Themes-People-Labour).

For a comprehensive reference on the concepts and definitions underpinning Australian labour statistics refer to the electronic publication *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

More information on labour statistics can be found in the sources listed throughout this pamphlet.

## KEY FACTS

		ANNUAL AVERAGE	
	UNITS	1986	2006
<b>CIVILIAN POPULATION</b>			
Aged 15 years and over	'000	12 260.4	16 559.3
<b>LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION</b>			
Males	%	75.8	72.2
Females	%	48.3	57.4
Persons	%	61.9	64.7
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>			
Males	'000	4 237.2	5 606.5
Females	'000	2 746.6	4 583.4
Persons	'000	6 983.7	10 189.9
Employment/population ratio	%	57.0	61.5
Part-time employment:			
Proportion of total employment			
Males	%	6.6	15.1
Females	%	37.7	45.2
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>			
Unemployed persons	'000	601.2	524.0
Unemployment rate			
Males	%	7.6	4.8
Females	%	8.5	5.0
Persons	%	7.9	4.9
Average duration of			
unemployment, persons	weeks	46.0(a)	38.6(b)

(a) Duration of unemployment since last full-time job.

(b) Duration of unemployment since last job.

## KEY FACTS

### LABOUR FORCE UNDERUTILISATION

	SEPTEMBER 2006	
	'000	%
Underutilised labour force(a)	1 065.2	(b)9.8
Underemployed(c)	544.6	5.0
Unemployed	520.6	4.8
<b>Labour force</b>	<b>10 881.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Comprises the unemployed plus the underemployed.

(b) Referred to as the labour force underutilisation rate.

(c) Employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have.

		ANNUAL AVERAGE	
		1986	2006
<b>HOURS WORKED(a)</b>			
Employed persons	hours	34.7	33.2
Full-time	hours	39.2	40.0
Part-time	hours	14.9	16.2

(a) Based on actual hours worked in the reference week of each month.

### INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER	
		1986	2006
Industrial disputes			
Working days lost per			
thousand employees	no.	237.7	14.9
Working days lost	'000	1 390.7	132.7
		AUG 1986	AUG 2006
Trade union members	%	45.6	20.3

### CHANGES IN WAGES AND PRICES

		12 MONTHS TO DEC QTR 2006	20 YEARS TO DEC QTR 2006
Wage price index,			
total hourly rate of			
pay excluding bonuses	%	4.0	na
Consumer price index, all groups	%	3.3	94.9

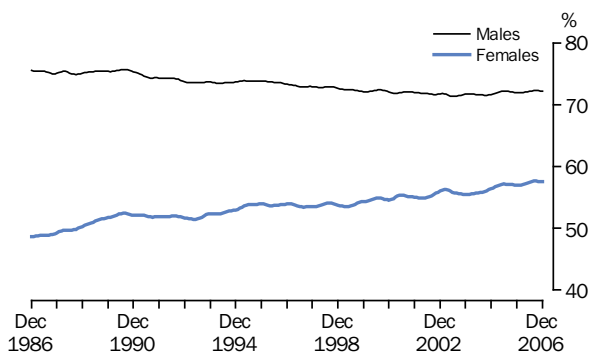
### EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES

		NOV 1986	NOV 2006
Average weekly earnings			
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	427.20	1 058.60
Full-time adult total earnings	\$	455.20	1 107.10
All employees total earnings	\$	380.60	843.70

Source: Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0); Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0); Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0); Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia (cat. no. 6310.0); Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001); Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001); Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0).

## LABOUR FORCE

### LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES: TREND ESTIMATES



Source: *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

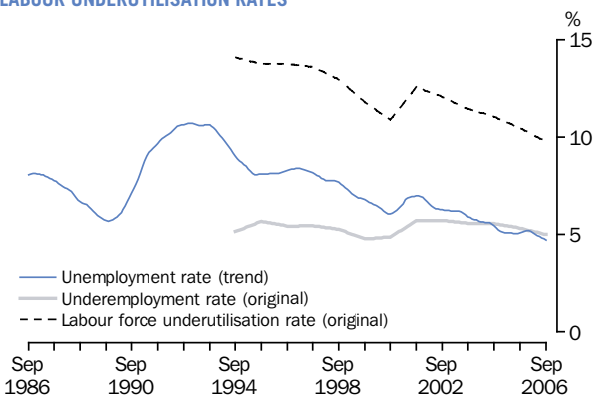
### EMPLOYED PERSONS: EMPLOYMENT TYPE

	AUGUST 2005	
	'000	%
Employees(a)	7 952.1	79.7
with paid leave entitlements	6 003.1	60.2
without paid leave entitlements	1 949.0	19.5
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	675.2	6.8
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	1 318.8	13.2
Contributing family workers	30.7	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 976.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises.

Source: *Australian Labour Market Statistics, July issue data cube* (cat. no. 6105.0).

### LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION RATES



Source: *Australian Labour Market Statistics, April issue data cube* (cat. no. 6105.0).

## LABOUR FORCE

### EMPLOYED PERSONS: OCCUPATION

	ANNUAL AVERAGE	
	2006	
	'000	%
Managers and administrators	854.4	8.4
Professionals	1 978.6	19.5
Associate professionals	1 275.9	12.6
Tradespersons and related workers	1 292.6	12.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	391.9	3.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	1 675.3	16.5
Intermediate production and transport workers	851.5	8.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	962.4	9.5
Labourers and related workers	871.2	8.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 153.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

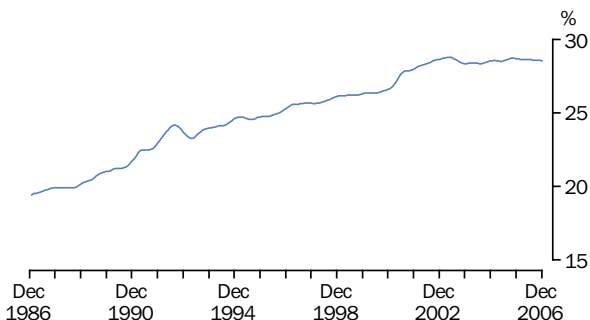
### EMPLOYED PERSONS: INDUSTRY

	ANNUAL AVERAGE	
	2006	
	'000	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	357.2	3.5
Mining	132.7	1.3
Manufacturing	1 058.0	10.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	85.7	0.8
Construction	908.7	8.9
Wholesale trade	459.0	4.5
Retail trade	1 492.3	14.7
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	477.5	4.7
Transport and storage	464.7	4.6
Communication services	181.7	1.8
Finance and insurance	381.6	3.8
Property and business services	1 220.0	12.0
Government administration and defence	478.8	4.7
Education	714.4	7.0
Health and community services	1 070.4	10.5
Cultural and recreational services	272.5	2.7
Personal and other services	398.6	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 153.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

## LABOUR FORCE

### PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT: TREND ESTIMATES



Source: Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001).

### UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

		ANNUAL AVERAGE 2006
	'000	%
Under 52 weeks		
Under 4 weeks	143.9	27.5
4 weeks and under 13 weeks	139.2	26.6
13 weeks and under 26 weeks	80.6	15.4
26 weeks and under 52 weeks	66.9	12.8
52 weeks and over (long-term unemployed)		
52 weeks and under 104 weeks	41.5	7.9
104 weeks and over	51.9	9.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>524.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001).

### LABOUR MOBILITY

		FEBRUARY 2006
	'000	%
Whether changed employer/business(a) in the 12 months prior		
Changed employer/business	1 151.8	11.6
Did not change employer/business	8 769.3	88.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 921.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Change in work(b)		
Some change in work	1 617.7	26.8
No change in work	4 424.5	73.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 042.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Persons who were working at February 2006.

(b) Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who were working at February 2006 and had been with their current employer for one year or more.

Source: Labour Mobility, Australia (cat. no. 6209.0).

## PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE

### PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE: MAIN ACTIVITY

	SEPTEMBER 2006		
	MALES	FEMALES	PERSONS
	%	%	%
Main activity:			
Retired or voluntarily inactive	40.6	25.6	31.4
Home duties or caring for children	8.3	44.7	30.6
Attending an educational institution	18.1	11.8	14.3
Own disability or handicap	9.1	3.3	5.6
Own illness or injury	9.6	4.3	6.4
Looking after ill or disabled person	2.5	3.7	3.2
Travel, holiday or leisure activity	7.1	3.7	5.0
Working in unpaid voluntary job	2.4	2.1	2.2
Other	2.2	0.7	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Persons not in the labour force	'000	2 091.3	3 321.8	5 413.1
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Source: *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6220.0)*.

## WAGES AND PAY-SETTING METHODS

### WAGE PRICE INDEX(a): OCCUPATION

	ANNUAL % CHANGE TO DEC QTR 2006
Managers and administrators	4.3
Professionals	4.5
Associate professionals	4.0
Tradespersons and related workers	3.7
Advanced clerical and service workers	3.8
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	3.5
Intermediate production and transport workers	4.1
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	2.7
Labourers and related workers	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.0</b>

(a) Index: Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses.

Source: *Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0)*.

### AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL EARNINGS (\$)

	NOV 1986	NOV 2006	% CHANGE
Full-time adult total earnings	\$	\$	%
Males	488.60	1 193.20	144.2
Females	382.00	955.40	150.1
Persons	455.20	1 107.10	143.2

Source: *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)*.

## WAGES AND PAY-SETTING METHODS

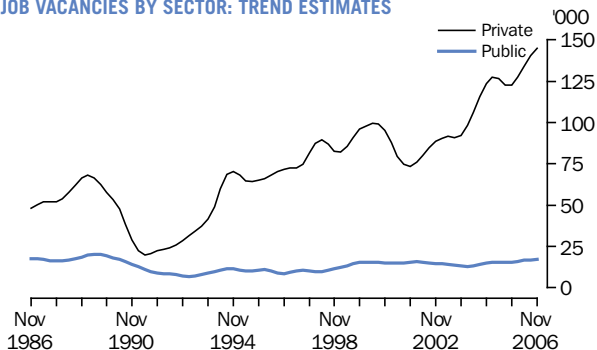
### METHODS OF SETTING PAY

	MALES %	FEMALES %	MAY 2006 PERSONS %
Award only	14.7	23.4	19.0
Collective Agreement			
Registered	34.6	41.7	38.1
Unregistered	3.3	2.8	3.0
Individual Arrangement			
Registered	3.6	2.5	3.1
Unregistered	36.6	26.7	31.7
Working Proprietor of incorporated business	7.2	2.9	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: *Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia* (cat. no. 6306.0).

## JOB VACANCIES

### JOB VACANCIES BY SECTOR: TREND ESTIMATES

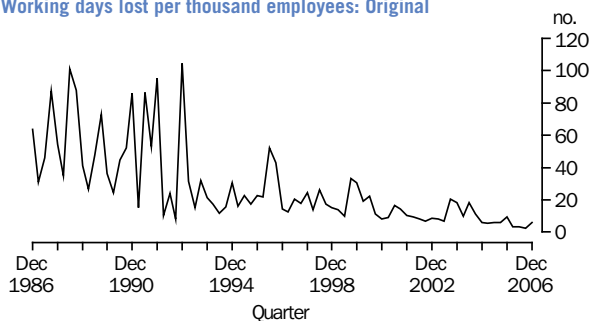


Source: *Job Vacancies, Australia* (cat. no. 6354.0).

## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

Working days lost per thousand employees: Original



Source: *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001).



## INTERNATIONAL

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

	POPULATION 2005 (MILLION)	STANDARDISED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a) 2005 %
Australia	20.3	5.1
Canada	32.3	6.8
France	60.9	9.7
Germany	82.5	9.5
Japan	127.8	4.4
New Zealand	4.1	3.7
Sweden	9.0	7.3
United Kingdom	60.0	4.8
United States of America	296.4	5.1

(a) ILO/OECD definition.

Source: OECD Labour Force Statistics, 2006 Edition; OECD Main Economic Indicators, April 2007.

## SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

Values shown in Australian dollars (\$). Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.

**Aug** — August      **Sept** — September      **Nov** — November

**Dec** — December      **qtr** — quarter      **na** — not available

**%** — per cent      **no.** — number      **'000** — thousand

**OECD** — Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development

**ILO** — International Labour Organisation

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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